IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for interfacing between signaling protocols, comprising:

a gateway operable to receive signaling information in a media gateway and call session control format, the gateway operable to convert the media gateway and call session control format to a broadband loop emulation service signaling protocol, the gateway operable to provide <u>dial</u> tone generation, <u>hook flash detection, caller identification generation, digit collection, call progress tones,</u> and <u>tone</u> detection capabilities<u>, wherein the gateway determines which of the capabilities to perform from</u> ~~pursuant to~~ the signaling information.

2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the gateway is operable to receive signaling information in the broadband loop emulation service signaling protocol, the gateway being operable to convert the broadband loop emulation service signaling protocol to the media gateway and call session control format.

3. (Original) The system of Claim 2, wherein the gateway is operable to provide the signaling information in the media gateway and call session control format to a Class 5 softswitch.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the media gateway and call session control format follows <u>any of</u> a SGCP, <u>MGCP, H.248, SIP, and H.323</u> standard.

5.   (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~media gateway and call session control format follows a MGCP standard~~ gateway is operable to receive the signaling information from a Class 5 softswitch, the gateway operable to receive voice signals from a public switched telephone network, the gateway operable to place the voice signals into data packets for transfer to an Internet Protocol network with the signaling information to establish a call connection from a public switched telephone network user to an Internet Protocol network user and eliminate coupling of the Class 5 softswitch to the Internet protocol network.

6.   (Currently Amended) The system of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the ~~media gateway and call session control format follows a H.248 standard~~ data packets and the signaling information are transferred over a common physical link.

7.   (Currently Amended) The system of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the ~~media gateway and call session control format follows a SIP standard~~ data packets and the signaling information are transferred over separate logical links.

8.   (Currently Amended) The system of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 5, wherein the ~~media gateway and call session control format follows a H.323 standard~~ Internet Protocol network has no link to the Class 5 softswitch other than through the gateway.

9.   (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a Class 5 softswitch operable to receive signaling information in a network signaling format, the Class 5 softswitch operable to convert the network signaling format to the media gateway and call session control format, the Class 5 softswitch operable to control incoming call requests from a network through the gateway according to the signaling information.

10.   (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 9, wherein the network signaling format is <u>any of</u> a SS7 <u>and C7</u> signaling format.

11.   (Original) The system of Claim 9, wherein the gateway is operable to provide signaling information to the Class 5 softswitch in the media gateway and call session control format, the Class 5 softswitch operable to convert the media gateway and call session control format to the network signaling format.

12.   (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the broadband loop emulation services signaling protocol implements a channel associated signaling format.

13.   (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the broadband loop emulation services signaling protocol implements a common channel signaling standard.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method for interfacing between signaling protocols, comprising:

receiving signaling information in a media gateway and call session control format from a Class 5 softswitch;

converting the media gateway and call session control format to a broadband loop emulation service signaling protocol;

providing <u>dial</u> tone generation, <u>hook flash detection, caller identification generation, digit collection, call progress tones,</u> and <u>tone</u> detection <u>capabilities;</u>

determining <u>which of the capabilities the gateway is to perform</u> in response to ~~the signaling information and~~ instructions received from the Class 5 softswitch <u>through the signaling information</u>.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 14, wherein the media gateway and call session control format follows <u>any of</u> a MGCP<u>, SGCP, H.248, SIP, and H.323</u> standard.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 14, <u>further comprising:</u> ~~wherein the media gateway and call session control format follows a H.248 standard~~

<u>receiving voice signals from a public switched telephone network;</u>

<u>placing the voice signals into data packets for transfer to an Internet Protocol network with the signaling information to establish a call connection from a public switched telephone network user to an Internet Protocol network user and eliminate coupling of the Class 5 softswitch to the Internet protocol network.</u>

17.   (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Claim 14~~ <u>Claim 16</u>, wherein the ~~media gateway and call session control format follows a SIP standard~~ <u>data packets and the signaling information are transferred over either a common physical link or separate logical links</u>.

18.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising:

providing the broadband loop emulation service signaling protocol to an integrated access device at a customer premises.

19.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the broadband loop emulation services signaling protocol implements a channel associated signaling format.

20.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the broadband loop emulation services signaling protocol implements a common channel signaling standard.

21. (New) A computer readable medium including code for interfacing between signaling protocols, the code operable to:

receive signaling information in a media gateway and call session control format from a Class 5 softswitch;

convert the media gateway and call session control format to a broadband loop emulation service signaling protocol;

provide dial tone generation, hook flash detection, caller identification generation, digit collection, call progress tones, and tone detection capabilities;

determine which of the capabilities the gateway is to perform in response to instructions received from the Class 5 softswitch through the signaling information.

22. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 21, wherein the code is further operable to:

receive signaling information in a network signaling format;

convert the network signaling format to the media gateway and call session control format;

control incoming call requests from a network through the gateway according to the signaling information.

23. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 22, wherein the code is further operable to:

provide signaling information to the Class 5 softswitch in the media gateway and call session control format;

convert the media gateway and call session control format to the network signaling format.

24.   (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 21,
wherein the media gateway and call session control format
follows any of a MGCP, SGCP, H.248, SIP, and H.323 standard.

25.   (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein the code is
further operable to:
receive voice signals from a public switched telephone
network;
place the voice signals into data packets for transfer to
an Internet Protocol network with the signaling information to
establish a call connection from a public switched telephone
network user to an Internet Protocol network user and
eliminate coupling of the Class 5 softswitch to the Internet
protocol network.

24.   (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 23,
wherein the data packets and the signaling information are
transferred over either a common physical link or separate
logical links.